

Direct from the Director

Extortion & Abuse with the stroke of a pen!

**Presidential Memorandum: Mitigating
Impacts on Natural Resources from
Development and Encouraging Related
Private Investment**

Check this out:

<https://federalregister.gov/a/2015-28466>

I hope my anger doesn't outdistance the worth of my analysis of the content in this egregious 'Presidential Memorandum'.

I ask each of you to read this memorandum which was published in the Federal Register on November 6, 2015. It's not too long, BUT it is an outrageous abuse of presidential power which will result in boundless damage to this nation on many levels. I do not exaggerate!

Its' poorly disguised and specious (dishonest) purpose is to serve as a firewall to delay and/or prevent the utilization of natural resources on federal lands and access to those lands. This would be achieved by using the content of this 'Presidential Memorandum' (PM) as the legal mechanism to make the final decision of whether or not project(s) and/or uses of federal land proceed. This means that.....

Hidden in the wording is the reality that whether or not the affected agencies following the land laws and agency rules and regulations in vetting a project or use, that this memorandum can be used to throw up a final roadblock just before the finish line of approval can be reached.

This is how things would work. All the environmental analysis could be followed in good faith. Compromises and adjustments would have been made along the way to ensure compliance and good stewardship. Then the policies and associated agency regulations required by this PM would come in to play.

Requirements such as financial commitments, financial prepayments over and above the cost of doing a project would be mandatory to pay for any possible future damage to resources. How's that for extortion. If you weren't willing to pay this extortion fee than the project or use would be dead in the water....make no mistake!

As there isn't enough room to run this entire PM and have room for anything else in this month's newsletter I want to just give you examples of some of the wording. *In a couple of instances, I have made an editorial comment in italics to provide food for thought.*

- ✚ This memorandum will encourage private investment (*pay twice*) in restoration and public-private partnerships, and help foster opportunities for businesses or non-profit organizations with relevant expertise to successfully achieve restoration and conservation objectives.
- ✚ "Advance compensation" (*extortion dollars*) means a form of compensatory mitigation for which measurable environmental benefits (defined by performance

standards) are achieved before a given project's harmful impacts to natural resources occur.

- +financial and long-term management commitments.
- + better decision-making for mitigation, including avoidance of irreplaceable natural resources. (*aren't resources such as coal, bentonite, trona irreplaceable in human timelines?*)
- + When compensatory actions take place on Federal lands and waters (*notice how they slip in waters*) that could be open to future multiple uses, agencies should describe measures taken to ensure that the compensatory actions are durable.



Are things coming into focus now.....

The specious (dishonest) wording in the PM is deliberate in its attempt to have you think this is all about restoring and repairing federal landscapes, as though no good has ever come from resource utilization.

This is about taking total and EXCLUSIONARY control of land and water.

Please read it, and then contact your congressional delegation with your thoughts. This is a total abuse of power.

End

